

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 1-11, 17 and 18, drawn to a conjugated diene polymer blend composition, rubber vulcanizate thereof and tire produced therefrom;

Group II, claim 12, drawn to a method for producing a conjugated diene polymer blend composition;

Group III, claims 13, drawn to a method for producing a conjugated diene polymer blend composition; and

Group IV, claim 16, drawn to a method for producing a conjugated diene polymer blend composition.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect the invention identified by the Examiner as Group I. Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement for restriction on the ground that all four of the invention groups identified by the Examiner are closely related to one another and accordingly they could be examined together in this application without undue burden on the PTO.

In response to the requirement for election of species, Applicants elect the species identified as polyorganosiloxanes of General Formula (1). Claims 1-11, 17, and 18 read on the elected species.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gallagher, Registration No 28,781

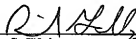
at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

- ☐ Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- ☐ Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 23, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By  #28,781
f Marc S. Weiner
Registration No.: 32,181
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant